



MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 12, 2004

SUBJECT: Preview of the Enhanced Publicly Reported
Nursing Home Quality Measures

TO: Medicare and Medicaid-certified Nursing Homes

Beginning January 22, 2004, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will begin publicly reporting an enhanced set of nursing home quality measures that have been endorsed by the National Quality Forum. At this time, consumers and providers will be able to view nursing home-specific quality measures at <http://www.medicare.gov/NHCompare/home.asp> (the Nursing Home Compare website) for each Medicare-certified nursing home in the 50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

As a courtesy to all Medicare and Medicaid-certified nursing homes, CMS will allow nursing homes to *preview* their own quality measure rates along with the numerators and denominators prior to the public posting later this month. Beginning **Monday, January 12, 2004**, the updated facility-specific quality measure rates will be available in your QIES mailbox (folder). **Data from the preview are not for public dissemination before the official public release of the enhanced quality measures on January 22nd.**

These measures will reflect care delivered in Quarter 3, 2003 to post-acute care nursing home residents between April 1, 2003 and September 30, 2003 and to chronic care residents between July 1, 2003 and September 30, 2003. Subsequent updates will continue to occur quarterly.

Enclosed is a table that provides a comparison of the enhanced set of quality measures and the original quality measures. For more details about the Nursing Home Quality Initiative, the quality measures and frequently asked questions (FAQs), please visit the official CMS website for professionals at www.cms.hhs.gov/quality/nhqi. Viewers can register at specific FAQs and will receive notification when that FAQ is updated.

Any facilities with questions or concerns regarding their specific quality measures, or concerns not answered in the FAQs, should contact their state Quality Improvement Organization (QIO). If your question is about your administrative information (e.g., name, address, phone number) or OSCAR data, please contact your State Survey Agency.

NHQI Quality Measure	Currently Available on NH Compare	Available on NH Compare January 22, 2004
Post Acute Care Measures		
Percent of short stay residents who had moderate to severe pain	√	√
Percent of short stay residents with delirium	√	√
Percent of short stay residents with delirium with an additional level of risk adjustment (FAP)	√	
Percent of short stay residents with pressure sores		√
Percent of short stay residents who walk as well or better on day 14 as on day 5 of their stay	√	
Chronic Care Measures		
Percent of residents whose need for help with daily activities has increased	√	√
Percent of residents who have moderate to severe pain	√	√
Percent of residents who were physically restrained	√	√
Percent of residents with pressure sores*	√	
Percent of residents with pressure sores with an additional level of risk adjustment (FAP)	√	
Percent of high-risk residents who have pressure sores		√
Percent of low-risk residents who have pressure sores		√
Percent of residents with infections	√	
Percent of residents with a urinary tract infection**		√
Percent of residents who spent most of their time in bed or in a chair		√
Percent of residents who have become more depressed or anxious		√
Percent of low-risk residents who lose control of their bowels or bladder		√
Percent of residents who have/had a catheter inserted and left in their bladder		√
Percent of residents whose ability to move about in and around their room got worse		√

* Pressure Sores were previously calculated as one measure and reported with and without the Facility Admission Profile (FAP); in the enhanced set of measures, Pressure Sores will be reported as a stratified measure for high-risk and low-risk residents.

** UTI was previously one of the infections reported as part of the Infections QM.